



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Wildorado, TX	Accident Number:	FTW03LA096
Date & Time:	01/31/2003, 1730 CST	Registration:	N3535Y
Aircraft:	Cessna 182F	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The 1,266-hour commercial pilot collided with livestock while landing on a 2,000 foot private dirt airstrip. The pilot reported that while on final approach, a 600-pound calf crossed into the aircraft's flight path. The aircraft struck the calf with its landing gear. The pilot added that he was landing towards the west (Runway 26) into the setting sun. The sunglare impaired the pilot's view in final approach.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The airplane collided with an animal that wandered onto the runway. A contributing factor was sun glare impairing the pilot's view on final approach.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - SUNGLARE
2. (C) OBJECT - ANIMAL(S)

Factual Information

On January 31, 2003, at approximately 1730 central standard time, a Cessna 182F single-engine airplane, N3535Y, registered to and operated by a private individual, was substantially damaged after colliding with livestock while on final approach to a private ranch airstrip located near Wildorado, Texas. The commercial pilot, who was the sole occupant, sustained minor injuries. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and a flight plan was not filed for the Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 personal flight. The local flight originated at 1530 from Wildorado, Texas.

The 1,266-hour pilot, who had accumulated 663 hours in the accident aircraft, reported that while on final approach, a 600-pound calf crossed into the aircraft's flight path. The aircraft then struck the calf with its landing gear. The aircraft sustained structural damage to the engine firewall and bottom of the fuselage.

The dirt airstrip was reported to be 2,000 feet long and 50 feet wide. The pilot reported he was landing to the west, into the setting sun.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	11/09/2002
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	01/16/2003
Flight Time:	1266 hours (Total, all aircraft), 663 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N3535Y
Model/Series:	182F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	18254435
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	11/01/2002, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	2800 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	20 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	2400 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	O-470-R
Registered Owner:	Billy Bob Moore	Rated Power:	230 hp
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	250°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.18 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	15° C / -6° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Wildorado, TX (1TE6)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(1TE6)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1530 CST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:	3850 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	NA	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	35.118056, -102.185000

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Alexander Lemishko	Report Date:	03/02/2004
Additional Participating Persons:	Steven E Miller; Flight Standards District Office (SW13); Lubbock, TX		
Publish Date:			
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).